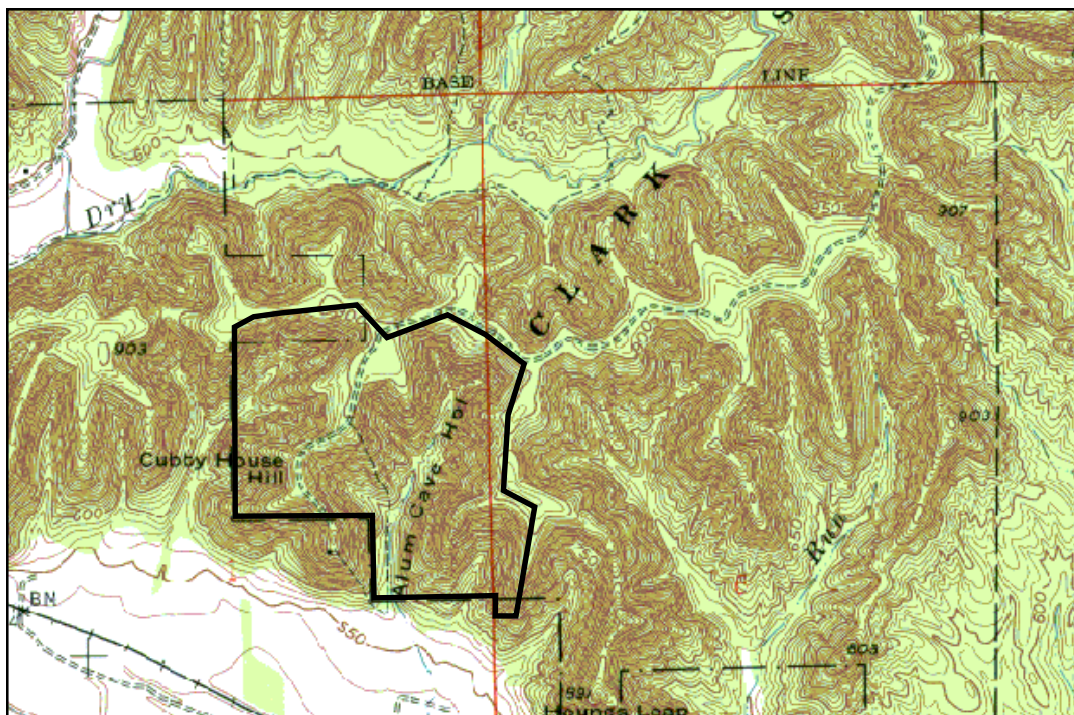


Alum Cave Hollow Nature Preserve

County: Clark Size: 142 acres
Ownership: Forestry - IDNR

Location and Access

There is about a 4.5 mi hike from the parking area to the preserve. There is no straight route to this site. For other directions call Clark State Forest Office (number below). There is parking and a trail. From I-65 at Henryville take exit 19 and go west on SR 160 to Bunker Hill (about 5 mi). Go south on S Blue River Rd to S Fire Lane Rd/S Honey Run Rd. At the 'T' turn left (east) onto E Whiskey Run Rd/Frainy Knob Rd. Then turn right (south) onto Bartle Knob Rd, which becomes Tree Lane. Park in the parking area. Follow the gated fire lane; it will eventually go through the preserve.



Description:

Few preserves in Indiana offer the degree of topographic relief as does Alum Cave Hollow. Located in the rugged knobs of southern Clark County, this remote, scenic preserve is well worth the effort to explore. From the base of the steep forested slopes to the dry upper slopes, a dramatic change in species composition occurs as soil moisture decreases. Moisture-loving species such as American beech and tulip tree prefer the deeper ravines, whereas native Virginia pine and chestnut oak occupy the driest sites. The pine is the only species of pine native to southern Indiana, and is found naturally only in the southern hills of the Knobstone Escarpment, of which the preserve is part. Rock outcrops, of rare occurrence in the region's landscape, are situated at the heads of some of the uppermost ravines. On the most exposed outcrops stunted pines and oaks occur, as well as small populations of the native prickly pear cactus.

Further Information:

Clark State Forest. PO Box 119, #2 Service Rd. Henryville IN 47126. 812-294-4306.

ClarkSF@dnr.state.in.us. www.in.gov/forestry.

Division of Nature Preserves. 402 W Washington St, Rm W267. Indianapolis IN 46204-2243.

317-232-0209. www.in.gov/dnr/naturepr